

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 330
By Dunn

A RESOLUTION To honor and commend Brandy McCarley upon her impending graduation from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as burgeoning community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, One such noteworthy person is Brandy McCarley, a young woman who manifests what one's determination, hard work, and dedication in combination with the love and guidance of family and the community can accomplish; and

WHEREAS, In December of 2001, Brandy Nichole McCarley will become a distinguished alumna of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, an achievement for which she has worked diligently and, when necessary, sacrificed the activities most college students take for granted; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her college career, Ms. McCarley has been a Ronald McNair Fellow; because of her 50-hour work week and full-time class schedule, she has found little time

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to participate in other extracurricular activities, an unfortunate result of her desire to pay her own way through school; and

WHEREAS, Beginning in high school, Brandy worked hard to meet her goals, knowing that her accomplishments in high school would form the foundation of her success in college; and

WHEREAS, In 1994, 1996, and 1997, she was listed in the *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, and she was awarded the Honor Roll Award in 1996 and 1997; and

WHEREAS, In 1997, Brandy McCarley was named "Business Professional of the Year," received the First Place ranking in the Regional Business Professional Association Business Entrepreneur Contest, received the Second Place ranking in the State Business Professional Association Business Entrepreneur Contest, and placed Third in the Annual Hardeman County Shriners Pageant; and

WHEREAS, A member of the St. Paul Skipper Springs Missionary Baptist Church, she served in the capacity of coordinator, as well as speaker, for their Annual Black History Program, and she also served as a member of the Youth Choir of New Bethel Baptist Church and as a member of the Hardeman County Baptist Association Choir; and

WHEREAS, A first-generation college student and a first-generation high school graduate, Ms. McCarley hopes to achieve another "first" for her family by becoming an attorney and politician, hoping to one day represent the people of Tennessee as the State's first African American woman in Congress; and

WHEREAS, By engaging in her favorite pastime of reading, Brandy has gained a wealth of knowledge about her rich heritage, history, and culture, a knowledge which she uses to encourage herself in her endeavor to become a part of that historical background; and

WHEREAS, The wisdom of Brandy's mother, manifest in the coining of the maxim, "If you don't stand for something, you will fall for anything", lent Brandy the necessary impetus to defy the stereotypical roles of both African Americans and women; and

WHEREAS, An advocate for civil rights, women's rights, and the rights of indigenous peoples, Ms. McCarley plans to use her political career as a platform to empower women and the African American community; and

WHEREAS, From the example of her father, a man who works twelve-hour days to provide for his family, Brandy learned the importance of hard work in achieving her goals and that she could achieve anything she set her mind to; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this General Assembly pay tribute to Ms. McCarley and recognize her as a model for all of Tennessee's youth to emulate; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Brandy Nichole McCarley for her hard work and dedication in achieving her goals and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.